

**Patron: HRH The Princess Royal
President: Brig P Dennis**



2 March 2018

WFRA NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 Issue 9

OBITUARIES

It is with sadness that we inform you that 387660 Lt Col (Retd) John Curzon CURSHAM TD* of East Leake, Loughborough died on 28 February 2018 aged 88. John was called up for Emergency Service in 1947 and served with 28th London Training Battalion in Ireland before going to OCTU Eaton Hall in September 1947. He was commissioned into 1st Battalion The Sherwood Foresters joining it in Hildesheim, Germany in 1948 before being posted to the 8th Battalion in 1950. John served with the 8th and then 5th/8th Battalions and in 1967 commanded the Nottinghamshire (Territorial) Bn Sherwood Foresters (TAVR 3). He retired from the TA in April 1969 and became a member of the Notts and Midland TAVR Committees. John was a long time Trustee of The Sherwood Foresters Museum and Chairman of the Management Committee of the Mercian Regiment Museum (WFR Collection) The funeral is to take place on Friday 16 March 2018 at St Anne's Church, East Leake at 1430 hours. Standards welcome. For those wishing to write in condolence, his son Edward can be contacted at c/o Home Farm House, East Leake, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 6PG

It is with regret that we notify you that 22953775 WO1 JJ GREGORY of Gressenhall died on 18 February 2018 aged 84. "Gentleman Jim" enlisted in 1953 and after basic training at Norton served with 1 Worc R in Iserlohn before returning to the Depot as a Sgt instructor. He then rejoined 1 Worc R in the West Indies and continued to serve with it in Minden, Gibraltar, Tobruk and with 1 WFR on the 1972 NI tour. On promotion to WO1 he served as RSM of 1 Mercian Volunteers and for his last year of service before discharge in 1975 he served another 6 months in NI. In retirement he was a very keen golfer. The funeral will take place at 1300 hours on Thursday 15 March at St Mary's, Church Lane, Gressenhall, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 2QH. Members and Standards

welcome.

It is with regret that we inform you that 23977686 Pte Ezra GASCOYNE of North Wingfield died on 23 February 2018. Ezra served with 1st Battalion The Sherwood Foresters 1962 - 1969 in Colchester, Cyprus, Munster and Minden. His funeral is to take place on Monday 12 March 2018 at Chesterfield Crematorium at 1250 hours followed by a wake at Wingfield Welfare Club. Members and Standards welcome.

001 FORESTERS LOTTERY RESULTS - FEBRUARY

The Foresters Lottery winners for February are:

1st Prize: £30.00 - MAJ D HALLAM

2nd Prize: £20.00 - MR G J TRANTER

3rd Prize: £10.00 - COL N H TURNER

Congratulations to all.

Want to join for a chance to support one of the museums and win? Then send us a cheque for a ticket which costs just £24 for the year, this is payable in advance either by cheque (made payable to The Museum of the Mercian Regiment (WFR Collection) or preferably by bank Standing Order. Those electing to pay by Standing Order are asked to complete a [form](#) and return it direct to the Curator. All profits go to the Museum of the Mercian Regiment (Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Collection). The lists of winners will be published on the WFRA Newsletter and contacted by the museum. The prize money can be collected from the Museum Office or will be sent by post. All members and supporters of the Mercian Regiment are eligible to take part with the exception of anyone involved in the organisation and administration of the lottery including RHQ Nottingham staff and their families. Tickets can be purchased by any eligible individual over the age of 16. Tickets may also be purchased by a collective i.e. an Association Branch. There is no limit on the number of tickets an individual or a collective may hold. Please annotate on the [joining form](#) how many tickets you wish to purchase. To be entered in the draw, please return the form which can be downloaded [here](#), including it with a Standing Order Form or a cheque and send to:

Museum of the Mercian Regiment (WFR Collection)
Foresters House
Chetwynd Barracks
Chilwell
Nottingham NG9 5HA

002 DUDLEY BRANCH WFRA MEETING DATES

Dudley Branch WFRA meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Ex-Servicemen's Club, Hall Street, Dudley, West Midlands at 2000 hours. All welcome

003 FORCES PENSION SOCIETY

The attention of members is drawn to the Forces Pension Society website at <https://forcespensionsociety.org/news/> The Society performs two principle functions:

It is a **WATCHDOG**, scrutinising the actions of the MOD and government to make sure that they apply the rules concerning Armed Forces pensions fairly and consistently and that the rules themselves are appropriate. The Society sits as an independent representative on the MOD Pension Board and also on the Public Sector Pensions Council alongside various public sector trades unions. The Society is also represented at the Customer Advisory Group run by Veterans UK, the MOD Agency that administers Armed Forces Pensions. The Society acts as a watchdog for the whole Armed Forces community.

The Society also acts as a **GUIDEDOG** for its members. This means answering their questions about their particular pension's issues, enabling them to seize control of their destiny and make informed decisions about their future. Queries range from those who simply want to understand their entitlement better or want a forecast verified to those who want to know details about a particular issue affecting them. Over the last few years Armed Forces pensions have become increasingly complex. They do not make decisions for individuals; but they do arm them with the facts so that they can make informed decisions for themselves.

004 REQUEST FOR HISTORICAL INFORMATION

An Antony Wardle is trying to trace the history of his ex-military Land-Rover. It's a 1950 model, first sent (he thinks) to Guiana in 1953, with the 1st Bn Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, it finished its service in 1958 at Up Park Camp, Jamaica with the Worcestershire Regiment. Would anyone have any info/pictures of 18 BC 47, an early Land-Rover? His contact details are Tel: 07917 825853 or email antonants@yahoo.co.uk

A H L McDOUGALL
for Executive Committee

Social media

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Our mailing address is:

The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regimental Association
18 Peatfield Road
Stapleford, Nottinghamshire NG9 8GN
United Kingdom